

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 148929  
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 H-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 SP-02 PA-01  
NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 DODE-00 /060 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:HNSAUNDERS:HE

APPROVED BY NEA:HNSAUNDERS

S/AA - AMB. ATHERTON (DRAFT)

H - MR. FLATEN (DRAFT)

-----035786 122257Z /66

P 122158Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 148929

FOR CHIEF OF MISSION FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, US, XF

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BEFORE HIRC

1. WIRELESS FILE JUNE 13 WILL CARRY TEXT OF STATEMENT  
I WILL BE MAKING JUNE 12 BEFORE HAMILTON SUBCOMMITTEE OF  
THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE  
EAST AND WESTERN EUROPE AS PART OF ITS ANNUAL REVIEW OF  
THE MIDDLE EAST.

2. FYI. THIS STATEMENT WAS CAREFULLY DESIGNED TO CRYSTAL-  
LIZE CONSENSUS VIEW OF THE MIDDLE EAST WITHIN THE USG AND  
WAS CLEARED WITH THE MAJOR INTERESTED DEPARTMENTS AS WELL  
AS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS WITHIN STATE DEPARTMENT. WHILE  
THIS STATEMENT WAS DRAFTED IN RESPONSE TO SUBCOMMITTEE'S  
REQUEST FOR TESTIMONY, NEA UNDERTOOK THIS INTENSIVE EXER-  
CISE WITH A VIEW TO UNDERSTANDING FOUNDATION ON WHICH  
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POLICY TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST RESTS AND ASSURING THAT ALL  
INVOLVED DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES ARE WORKING FROM A COMMON  
PERCEPTION OF OUR INTERESTS. RECENT DEBATE IN THE CONGRESS  
OVER AIRCRAFT SALES SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY OF HAVING SOME  
SUCH COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT AS A BASIS FOR FUTURE DIS-  
CUSSION AND DEBATE.

-

3. OUR PURPOSE IN WRITING THIS DOCUMENT WAS NOT TO BREAK

GROUND WITH NEW POLICY BUT RATHER TO ARTICULATE EXISTING PERCEPTIONS AND PREMISES WHICH UNDERLIE OUR PRESENT POSTURE TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST. AS YOU WILL SEE, A CENTRAL POINT IS THAT OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO DESIGN A POLICY WHICH ENCOMPASSES ALL OF OUR INTERESTS AND THE WELL-BEING OF OUR FRIENDS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT IS INTENDED AS A DOCUMENT FOR BRINGING AMERICANS TOGETHER IN A CONSENSUS ON POLICY TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST. END FYI.

4. YOU SHOULD, THEREFORE, DRAW ON THE FLAVOR OF FYI PARAGRAPH ABOVE TO ESTABLISH THAT THIS STATEMENT WAS WRITTEN IN RESPONSE TO A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE'S DESIRE TO HOLD ITS ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND U.S. POLICY TOWARD THAT AREA.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE148929  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** HHSAUNDERS:HE  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 9a41d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2385120  
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**Subject:** STATEMENT BEFORE HIRC  
**TAGS:** PEPR, US, XF, (SAUNDERS, HAROLD H)  
**To:** NEA POSTS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/9a41d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
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